

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A swimming snorkel apparatus to be worn by a swimmer comprising:
a mask for receipt on the face of the swimmer constructed to permit vision therethrough;
5 a mounting strap for encircling the head of the swimmer and cooperating with the mask to secure the mask in place on the head;
a snorkel device attached to the mounting strap and including a mouthpiece and a snorkel tube; and
an oxygen supply system attached to the mounting strap and including an oxygen
10 containing canister, a canister connector for mounting the canister to the strap, and an oxygen supply tube for communicating supplemental oxygen from the canister to the snorkel device.
2. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
15 the swimmer inspires atmospheric air through the snorkel device while simultaneously inspiring the supplemental oxygen therethrough.
3. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the snorkel device further defines an inspiration path that extends along the length
20 of the snorkel tube, through the mouthpiece and to the mouth of the swimmer and along which the user may inspire atmospheric air; and
the oxygen supply system provides supplemental oxygen to the snorkel device at a point along the inspiration path for simultaneous inspiration by the swimmer along with the atmospheric air.

4. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the snorkel tube is further formed with an outer wall, an inner wall and an oxygen
inlet opening that extends from the outer wall to the inner wall; and
the oxygen supply tube is connected in fluid communication with the inlet
5 opening.

5. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the mouthpiece is formed with an oxygen inlet opening in communication with the
mouth of the swimmer; and
10 the oxygen supply tube is connected in fluid communication with the inlet
opening.

6. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the oxygen supply system further includes a flow control for initiating, terminating
15 and controlling the rate of the flow of oxygen from the canister to the oxygen supply
tube.

7. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the oxygen supply system includes a flow valve that is configured for
20 complemental and releasable receipt of the canister and is in communication with the
oxygen supply tube; and
the flow of oxygen from the canister and through the flow valve is initiated when
the canister is received in the flow valve.

25 8. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 7 wherein:
the flow valve includes a flow control for initiating, terminating and controlling
the rate of the flow of oxygen through the flow valve to the oxygen supply tube.

9. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the oxygen supply system further includes a canister housing configured for
receiving the canister therein; and
the canister connector mounts the canister housing to the mounting strap.

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10. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 9 wherein:
the oxygen supply system includes a flow valve that is configured for
complemental and releasable receipt of the housing and is in communication with the
oxygen supply tube; and

10 the flow of oxygen from the canister and through the flow valve is initiated when
the housing is received in the flow valve.

11. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 1 wherein:
the canister connector mounts the canister directly to the mounting strap.

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12. A swimming snorkel apparatus configured to provide supplemental oxygen to a
swimmer comprising:

a mask including a lens and a body for fitting the face of the swimmer;

a headband strap connected to the mask body for mounting the mask to the head of

20 the swimmer;

a snorkel device including an air tube and a mouthpiece through which the
swimmer may inspire atmospheric air;

a supplemental oxygen supply bottle mounted to the headband strap; and

an oxygen supply tube for communicating supplemental oxygen from the oxygen

25 supply bottle to the snorkel device for simultaneous inspiration therefrom by the
swimmer along with the atmospheric air.

13. The swimming snorkeling apparatus of claim 12 further comprising:
a flow valve for initiating the flow of oxygen from the oxygen supply bottle to the snorkel device.

5 14. A swimming snorkel apparatus for delivering both atmospheric air and supplemental oxygen to a swimmer comprising:
a mask for receipt on the face of the swimmer that includes a flexible mask body and a transparent lens;
a headband strap that works in cooperation with the mask body to mount the mask
10 to the head of the user;
a snorkel device attached to the headband strap and including an air tube and a mouthpiece through which the swimmer may inspire the atmospheric air; and
an oxygen supply means attached to the headband strap for communicating supplemental oxygen to the snorkel device to be simultaneously inspired by the swimmer
15 along with the atmospheric air.

15. The swimming snorkel apparatus of claim 14 wherein:
the oxygen supply means further includes a flow control means for initiating, terminating and controlling the rate of the flow of oxygen communicated to the snorkel
20 device.

16. A swimming snorkel apparatus for delivering both atmospheric air and supplemental oxygen to a swimmer comprising:
a mask for receipt on the face of the swimmer that includes a flexible mask body
25 and a transparent lens;
a headband strap that works in cooperation with the mask body to mount the mask to the head of the user;

a snorkel device attached to the headband strap and including an air tube and a mouthpiece through which the swimmer may inspire the atmospheric air;

an oxygen supply canister mounted to the headband strap;

a flow valve configured for complementary and releasable receipt of the oxygen supply canister and including a flow initiating means for initiating the flow of oxygen from the canister when it is received in the flow valve and a flow control means for controlling the rate of flow of the oxygen through the flow valve; and

an oxygen supply tube for communicating supplemental oxygen from the flow valve to the snorkel device for inspiration by the swimmer therefrom while also inspiring the atmospheric air.

17. A method for introducing atmospheric air supplemented with oxygen to a swimmer during swimming and snorkeling exercise including:

selecting a mask;

mounting the mask to the head of the swimmer by a headband strap;

selecting a snorkel device including a snorkel tube and a mouthpiece through which the swimmer may breathe the atmospheric air;

attaching the snorkel device to the headband strap;

attaching an oxygen canister charged with a supplemental supply of oxygen to the headband strap; and

communicating the supplemental supply of oxygen from the canister to the snorkel device from which the swimmer may simultaneously inspire both the atmospheric air and the oxygen.